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Box Non-Fee Amendment
Attorney Docket No. 24222

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Subraman Rao CHERUKURI

Art Unit: 1615

Serial No.: 09/982,093

Examiner: B. Fubara

Filed: October 19, 2001

Confirmation No. 6757

For: **DRUG DELIVERY SYSTEMS**

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is the following:

- (1) Transmittal Letter; and
- (3) Response and Amendment Under 37 CFR 1.111.

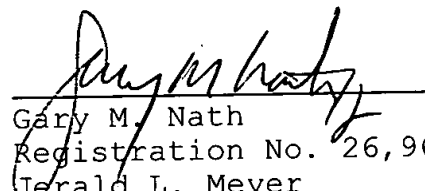
The Assistant Commissioner is hereby specifically authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in connection with this matter to deposit Account No. 14-0112.

Respectfully submitted,
NATH & ASSOCIATES

Date: January 22, 2003

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RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Box AF
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated October 22, 2002. The three-month shortened statutory period is set to expire on January 22, 2003; accordingly, this response is timely filed.

The following amendment should be entered under 37 C.F.R. 1.111 because the amendments to the claims and remarks place this application in condition for allowance. As such, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are currently pending in the present application, with claims 8-24 having been provisionally withdrawn by the Examiner as being directed to a non-elected species. Thus, claims